Claims

[c1] A metering blade suspension system, comprising:
a metering blade assembly; and
at least one leaf spring connected to the assembly.

[c2] The suspension system of claim 1, wherein the leaf spring comprises a support arm for the blade assembly.

[c3] The suspension system of claim 1, wherein the leaf spring comprises an electrically conductive material.

[c4] The suspension system of claim 3, wherein the electrically conductive material comprises metal.

[c5] The suspension system of claim 1, wherein said at least one leaf spring comprises a pair of leaf springs.

[c6] The suspension system of claim 5, wherein each one of the pair of leaf springs are disposed at opposite ends of the assembly.

[c7] The suspension system of claim 1, wherein the leaf spring controls at least one of an angle, a position and a load of the metering blade.

[c8] The suspension system of claim 1, wherein the metering

blade assembly pivots on the at least one leaf spring.

[c9] The suspension system of claim 1, wherein the at least one leaf spring comprises an electrical connection.

[c10] The suspension system of claim 1, wherein the at least one leaf spring comprises a grounding path for bleeding static charge from the metering blade assembly.

[c11] A drum maintenance unit, comprising the metering blade suspension system of claim 1.

[c12] The drum maintenance unit of claim 10, wherein the at least one leaf spring secures the blade assembly in the drum maintenance unit.

[c13] A removable cassette for an imaging apparatus, comprising the drum maintenance unit of claim 10.

[c14] A method of supporting a metering blade assembly in a drum maintenance unit, comprising connecting at least one leaf spring to the metering blade assembly.

[c15] The method of claim 14, wherein the at least one leaf spring comprises a pair of leaf springs.

[c16] The method of claim 15, wherein each one of the pair of leaf springs are disposed at opposite ends of the assembly.

[c17] The method of claim 14, wherein the at least one leaf spring controls at least one of an angle, a position and a load of the metering blade.

[c18] The method of claim 14, wherein the metering blade assembly pivots on the at least one leaf spring.

[c19] The method of claim 14, wherein the at least one leaf spring comprises an electrical connection.

[c20] The method of claim 14, wherein the at least one leaf spring comprises a grounding path for bleeding static charge from the metering blade assembly.